

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8-10 and 12-14 are amended, and claim 15 is added. Accordingly, claims 1-4 and 6-15 are pending in this application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative at the personal interview conducted on August 30, 2004. The substance of the interview is incorporated in the following remarks, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 6-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,774,105 to Yamamoto et al. (hereinafter "Yamamoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,411,282 to Ishizawa et al. (hereinafter "Ishizawa") and U.S. patent No. 6,304,431 to Kim. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, independent claim 1 is amended to recite "plural display devices ... possess setting information and have a function of controlling whether or not they display information in accordance with selection information generated based on the setting information." Claim 6 is similarly amended. The amendments to claims 1 and 6 incorporate features previously recited in claim 3, and supported in the specification for example, on page 17, line 18 - page 18, line 5.

Applicant submits that the feature "the plural display devices have a function of controlling whether or not they display information" is a unique feature because none of the references of record have plural display devices which are detachably attached to a connector for delivering electric power and for sending information. Further, the situation may arise wherein it is desired to have the information sending unit write the information to a subset of the plurality of display devices, as indicated by the selection information from the information

sending means. In order to write to the subset of display devices, the display devices "have a function of controlling whether or not they display information, in accordance with selection information generated based on the setting information," as recited in claims 1 and 6.

Since Ishizawa and Kim only disclose a single display device connected to an information sending means, there is no selection information disclosed or needed to select the particular display device.

As discussed during the personal interview, Yamamoto arguably discloses plural display means; however, nowhere are the display means of Yamamoto disclosed as having "a function of controlling whether or not they display information in accordance with selection information from an information sending means and the setting information." In Yamamoto, the image data is displayed on the liquid crystal display panel 2A whenever the MPU 6 issues the command to transfer image data to the driver IC of the liquid crystal panel. (See column 6, lines 63-67).

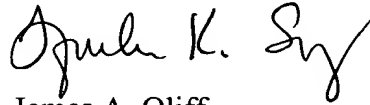
Accordingly, as agreed to during the personal interview, Applicant respectfully submits that Yamamoto, Ishizawa and Kim, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest each and every feature recited in independent claims 1 and 6.

Claims 2-4 and 13-15 depend from claim 1, and claims 7-12 depend from claim 6. Therefore, claims 2-4 and 7-14 are patentable for the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4 and 6-15 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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